

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. XVIII, No. 7, July, 1920

EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

Public Health Convention at San Francisco, September 13-17.—The 49th National Convention of the American Public Health Association will be held in San Francisco September 13-17, 1920, and from present indications will bring to California the most distinguished body of health officials that have ever come to the Pacific Coast. This is the first convention that the A.P.H.A. has held west of the Missouri River and for many of the delegates it will be the first visit to California. Our State has long boasted of its healthful attractions and has an opportunity now to exhibit them to scientific men and women who can appraise and appreciate them best. . . .

Some Practical Features of Heart Disease.—It has been said in these columns that modern medicine embraces the prevention, cure and alleviation of disease. In the realm of organic heart disease it is evident that prevention and cure have been little touched in our therapeutics, and what progress we have made has been chiefly in the line of alleviation, more or less lasting. The newer cardio-pathology takes less account of murmurs and cardiac sounds, and in turn stresses the functional ability of the heart as of chief value in prognosis and treatment. Excluding the relatively infrequent, acute, infective heart lesions, the treatment of heart disease therefore demands of the physician a better acquaintance with the first evidences of disease and a better knowledge of etiology, in order that the all-important prevention of heart disease may be more frequently accomplished. . . .

Chiropractic S. O. S.—We are informed by the Los Angeles Record that the chiropractors are issuing S.O.S. signals at frequent intervals these days. The signals are chiefly for quick and generous financial aid. Chiropractors who have been violating the medical practice laws have been arrested in a number of California cities. They want a defense fund.

The safest road for these to travel, as well as members of all other cults, and of the entire medical profession is the highway marked by definite statutes. It is not only safest for them but safest for the public. It is a mystery to us where and why any adult gets the opinion that the medical laws of this State can be violated with impunity. The amazing audacity of those who attempt to practice the healing art in defiance of law is born of egotism and ignorance. The exalted ego of little learning seems to convince its dupes that they are born to heal for coin and their ignorance confirms the verdict. . . .

EXCERPTS FROM ORIGINAL AND OTHER ARTICLES

From an Article on "Neglected Opportunities," by H. A. L. Ryfkoogel, M.D., San Francisco, Cal. Address of President.—For many reasons the members of the medical profession of California are singularly fortunate. . . .

The possibilities of civic service by an organized medi-

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† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

Historical reminiscences, papers and other archives will be welcomed by the C.M.A. Committee on History, to whom such should be sent. Address same to the Committee's Secretary, Dr. George H. Kress, Room 2004, 450 Sutter, San Francisco 8.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By F. N. SCATENA, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer

Board Proceedings

A regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners was held at Native Sons Hall, San Francisco, July 9th to 12th, at which charges of unprofessional conduct were heard, petitions for modification of probation and for restoration of revoked certificates were considered.

The next oral examination to be held by the Board is scheduled for August 11, 1945, at the Board's Los Angeles office, 907 State Building, Los Angeles. Applicants desiring to qualify for this examination should have fully completed applications on file at least two weeks prior to the date of the examination.

News

"Army and Navy medical officers not holding California licenses, may treat military personnel outside of a military reservation or at a military hospital only in case of emergency and as an official duty to the armed forces, Attorney General Robert W. Kenny stated Saturday. His ruling was requested by the State Board of Medical Examiners. Kenny said, 'Army and Navy medical officers may in an emergency situation, treat the dependents of military personnel, since the health and welfare of such dependents bear directly upon the morale and efficiency of the members of the armed forces. Except in the case of such emergencies, and as an official duty, no medical treatment may be administered by unlicensed medical officers to non-military personnel in any non-Federal area within the State of California.' The opinion was prepared by J. Albert Hutchinson, Deputy attorney-general." (San Francisco Recorder, May 28, 1945.)

"The call was sounded today for more Los Angeles men and women to enlist in the United States Navy as Waves and Physicians. The reason for the urgent call, according to Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, surgeon general of the navy, is increased casualties expected in the Pacific war area. McIntire said that 10,000 more Waves and 4,000 physicians are needed by the navy immediately. Applicants may apply at the Office of Naval Procurement, 411 West Fifth Street." (Los Angeles Herald and Express, May 18, 1945.)

"Tell the West Coast folks that we used blood five days after it was walking around in San Francisco. My buddies need more.' Lieutenant (jg) John R. Wassell sent that message to his father, the famed Dr. Wassell of Burma action fame. Lieutenant Wassell is a medical officer aboard a landing ship hospital. In the Iwo Jima campaign, he said, blood donated by San Franciscans was used in 37 major operations within a brief period. He said plasma had its place in surgery, but that it could not replace whole blood in extreme cases." (San Francisco News, May 19, 1945.)

"Paul O. Sampson, food faddist who addressed civic clubs of Chico, Oroville, Marysville, Gridley and dozens of other northern California cities on the subject of

(Continued in Back Advertising Section, on Page 44)

† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.

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was nominated for President-Elect by Frank B. Carpenter of San Francisco, said nomination being duly seconded by Wm. T. McArthur of Los Angeles. On motion, duly seconded, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for John H. Graves for President-Elect. The Secretary duly cast the ballot, and John H. Graves was duly declared elected President-Elect of the Society for the year 1920. . . .

Driven from every other corner of the earth, freedom of thought and the right of private judgment in matters of conscience directed their course to this happy country as their last asylum.

—Samuel Adams, *Speech*, Philadelphia, 1 Aug., 1776.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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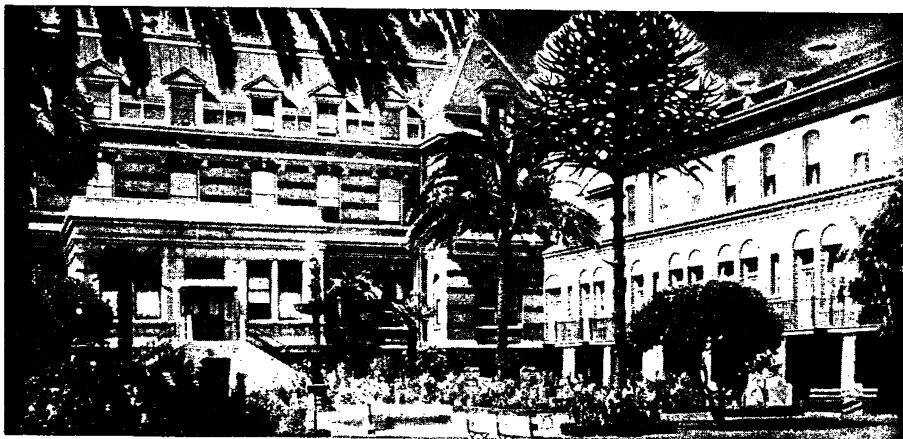
better and longer living through diet, was arrested yesterday and booked at the Chico City Jail on four charges of violating the medical laws and the pure food laws of California. Held on \$2,000 bail on the four charges. He was finally released on personal recognizance to Dr. J. A. Ware, Allison Ware, by order of Justice of Peace J. F. Robbins. He was arrested by Joseph W. Williams, . . . special agent of the State Medical Board, and L. F. Gipsen, investigator of the State Pharmacy Board. Sampson was specifically charged with violating section 2141 of the Medical Laws business and professional code for practicing a system of treating the sick without a license . . ." (*Chico Record*, May 6, 1945.)

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"Taken into custody while free on bail on two similar counts, Dr. Samuel D. Collins, 42, a chiropractor, of 516 S. Commonwealth Ave., was held today on suspicion of performing an illegal operation. His asserted victim, Lelai Drabic, 22, of 808 S. Hartford St., was in a serious condition in General Hospital. She assertedly told police she paid Collins \$100.00 to perform the operation May 18." (Hollywood Citizen-News, May 22, 1945.)

"More than a hundred San Quentin prisoners, called upon to assist the Government in its fight against dread bubonic plague, have volunteered as guinea pigs. Fifty selected men were inoculated with a new vaccine produced at Hooper Foundation of the University of Cali-

fornia under a research program sponsored by the Office of Scientific Research and Development. . . . The prisoners were asked to join in the fight after thirty Hamilton Field volunteers were transferred to combat duty before reaction of the vaccine could be tabulated. . . . It was explained to the prisoners that the principal purpose of the Government-sponsored research was to develop immunization to plague without inconvenience to those vaccinated. Scientists have been working for years to develop a vaccine which could be administered without ill effects. Bubonic plague is now endemic in ground squirrels in the western states and among rats in the Bay Area. . . ." (San Francisco Chronicle, May 25, 1945.)

We [in America] set out to Oppose Tyranny in all its Strides, and I hope we shall persevere.

—Abraham Clark, Letter to John Hart, 8 Feb., 1777.

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